

COUNCIL AGENDA: 05-17-05

ITEM: 2.11

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Jim Holgersson
Robert L. Davis
Larry D. Lisenbee

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: May 5, 2005

APPROVED:

DATE:

May 9, 2005

Council District: 5 and 8

SNI: Valley/ 680 Communities
and K.O.N.A.

SUBJECT: **ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND FUNDING SOURCES RESOLUTION AMENDMENTS IN THE GENERAL FUND FOR FIRST YEAR FEDERAL WEED AND SEED GRANT FUNDS TO SUPPORT EFFORTS IN THE SAN JOSE NEIGHBORHOOD; SECOND YEAR WEED AND SEED GRANT AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SAN JOSE NEIGHBORHOOD.**

RECOMMENDATION

1. Adoption of the following Appropriation Ordinance and Funding Sources Resolution amendments in the General Fund:
 - a. Increase the revenue estimate for Revenue from the Federal Government by \$175,000.
 - b. Establish a City-wide appropriation to the City Manager's Office in the amount of \$100,540 for the San José Weed and Seed Program.
 - c. Establish a City-wide appropriation to the Police Department in the amount of \$74,460 for the San José Weed and Seed Program.
2. Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply to the United States Department of Justice for second year Weed and Seed Program funding for the San José neighborhood in an amount not to exceed \$225,000 for the period of

May 5, 2005

Subject: Appropriation Ordinance for 1st & 2nd Year Weed and Seed Grant Authorization.

Page 2

October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006, to accept the grant if awarded, and to execute all related documents.

BACKGROUND

In October 2003, the City of San José applied to the United States Department of Justice Weed and Seed Program for Official Recognition (OR) status for Charles 3 police beat, hereafter referred to as the San José neighborhood. This neighborhood was chosen because it has the highest crime rate in all of San José. The geographic boundaries of this area include Story Road, King Road, Tully Road and Karl Street. This neighborhood lies within two Strong Neighborhoods Initiative areas, the Valley/680 Communities and the King Ocala Neighborhood Area (K.O.N.A.).

The focus of the Weed and Seed program is to “weed-out” violent crime, gang activity, drug use, and drug trafficking in selected neighborhoods. Community resources are then used to “seed” the target area for social and economic revitalization and long-term stability. Weed and Seed consists of four strategies:

- Law Enforcement
- Community Policing
- Prevention, Intervention & Treatment (including Community Mobilization, Education and Empowerment)
- Neighborhood Restoration

In July 2004, the United States Department of Justice Weed and Seed staff conducted a site visit to validate the data, strategies and partnerships outlined in the original OR application. As a result of the site visit, the San José neighborhood was designated as an Officially Recognized Weed and Seed site, and therefore, became eligible to apply for Weed and Seed funds. OR status lasts for five years, which makes the San José neighborhood eligible to apply for funding during that time period. The City must apply each year for funding, and the funding process is competitive and not guaranteed.

In September 2004, the City submitted its first year funding application for the period of October 2004 through September 2005; and in late March 2005, the City was informed that the San José neighborhood received its first Weed and Seed grant for the amount of \$175,000. Because there are less than six months to spend this grant, the San José Weed and Seed Steering Committee met on April 13, 2005 to amend the budget in order to spend all the funds within the grant period. The City is also preparing a second year grant proposal for the amount of \$225,000 covering the period of October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006. This second year grant proposal will be similar in scope to the first year grant, with an additional \$50,000 allocated toward a special emphasis chosen by the Steering Committee.

May 5, 2005

Subject: Appropriation Ordinance for 1st & 2nd Year Weed and Seed Grant Authorization.

Page 3

ANALYSIS

Weed and Seed grant funding for the San José neighborhood will strengthen and increase targeted efforts by the Police Department; Code Enforcement; Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services; the Redevelopment Agency; and the community. The Weed and Seed program is a strategy as well as a grant program. It uses enhanced law enforcement, community policing and resident empowerment to make real and lasting change in targeted neighborhoods. Receipt of Weed and Seed funding would allow residents and community leaders, community-based organizations, local businesses, schools and City, County and Federal staff to coordinate efforts in implementing the strategy over the five years.

Receiving Weed and Seed Grant funding for the San José neighborhood will enhance and improve upon City efforts already underway in that area, including the efforts of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative. The Weed and Seed strategy will focus on six primary areas:

- Reducing gang activity
- Reducing drug and alcohol activity
- Reducing the truancy rate at local schools
- Improving the relationship between police officers and the community
- Increasing family and youth support services (in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club, Most Holy Trinity Church, the Dorsa Community Portable, and local schools)
- Improving deteriorated infrastructure and housing assistance (in conjunction with the SNI Plans for the Valley/680 Communities and K.O.N.A. neighborhoods)

These priority areas will be managed as follows:

- The law enforcement strategy will focus on arrest and prosecution of gang members, drug dealers, and offenders who bring down the quality of life for law-abiding members of the community;
- The community policing strategy will target on improving the relationship between law enforcement and the community, providing intervention and outreach to at-risk youth and focusing on truancy abatement;
- The prevention, intervention, and treatment strategy will develop three Safe Havens and partner with local schools and other service providers to provide positive services for families and youth, and increase gang awareness education among residents; and
- The neighborhood restoration strategy will have the objective of improving the deteriorated infrastructure of the neighborhood and revitalizing the local economy.

The concentrated effort of each element of the Weed and Seed strategy on the problems of the targeted area, coupled with clear communication between all of the involved partners will lead to a revitalized and empowered San José neighborhood. The San José Weed and

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

May 5, 2005

Subject: Appropriation Ordinance for 1st & 2nd Year Weed and Seed Grant Authorization.

Page 4

Seed Steering Committee oversees the implementation of the Weed and Seed strategies and provides a forum for communication and collaboration among the partners involved.

OUTCOME

The overarching goal of the Weed and Seed program is to reduce crime in the San José neighborhood. The Weed and Seed strategy is designed to comprehensively reduce crime through “weeding” activities and prevent crime through “seeding” activities. Over the next five years, the San José Weed and Seed Steering Committee will also strive to establish a network of partnerships and services that can sustain the Weed and Seed crime reduction strategy after the funding has ended.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The San José Weed and Seed Steering Committee includes representatives from the Dorsa Neighborhood Association, Valley/680 Communities and K.O.N.A. Neighborhood Action Committees; Story Road Business Association; Alum Rock Union, East Side Union and Evergreen School Districts; Most Holy Trinity Church, Boys and Girls Club (Smythe Clubhouse), California Youth Outreach, and Pathways Society; the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office and Probation Department; the Redevelopment Agency; and numerous City of San José departments including Police, PRNS, Code Enforcement, Housing, and Department of Transportation. The Steering Committee has been leading the Weed and Seed effort in San José since its inception. The Steering Committee was responsible for developing and approving the final allocation budget for both the first year grant and the second year grant proposal.

COST IMPLICATIONS

The City of San José will be reimbursed through the grant award for Department of Justice approved costs.

COORDINATION

This memo has been coordinated with Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services; Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Department; San José Police Department; the Redevelopment Agency; and the City Attorney’s Office.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL


May 5, 2005

Subject: Appropriation Ordinance for 1st & 2nd Year Weed and Seed Grant Authorization.

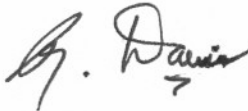
Page 5

CEQA

Not a Project.



JIM HOLGERSSON
Deputy City Manager



ROBERT L. DAVIS
Chief of Police



LARRY D. LISENBEE
Budget Director

I hereby certify that there will be available for appropriation in the General Fund in the Fiscal Year 2004-05, monies in excess of those heretofore appropriated therefrom, said excess being at \$175,000.



LARRY D. LISENBEE
Budget Director